



Financial Oversight Committee

Prompting Community Feedback

May 22, 2025

1. Bond Amount & Project Scope

- a. Do you feel the proposed investment addresses the most important needs for our students and schools?
- b. Would you support a bond of this size if it meant no increase to the tax rate?
- c. Would a lower bond with fewer projects feel more manageable or less impactful?

2. Mill Rate/Tax Impact

- a. How important is it to you that the mill rate remains flat or goes down?
- b. Would a modest tax reduction make you more likely to vote "yes"?
- c. Does a flat tax rate feel like a responsible financial approach to you?

3. Election Timing

- a. Do you typically vote in general elections, special elections, or both?
- b. Would you feel well-informed enough to vote on a school bond in November?
- c. Do you prefer more time for community engagement and education before voting on an issue like this?
- d. Would you be more likely to vote if the bond was on a general or special election ballot?

4. Communication & Trust

- a. What kind of information would you need to feel confident voting on a school bond?
- b. Where do you usually get trusted information about school decisions or elections?
- c. What concerns, if any, do you have about the school district's past or future bond initiatives?

5. Voting Motivation

- a. What would make you vote "yes" on a school bond?
- b. What would make you vote "no"?
- c. Do you believe public schools are a good place for community investment right now?



Bond Issue Option Comparison

Feature	Option 1: \$480M, 7.500 Mills, 20 Years	Option 2: \$400M, 7.500 Mills, 15 Years	Option 3: \$390M, 7.250 Mills, 15 Years
Bond Amount	\$480 million	\$400 million	\$390 million
Mill Rate	7.500 mills (flat)	7.500 mills (flat)	7.250 mills (decrease)
Term	20 years	15 years	15 years
Change from Original Plan	+\$30M (adjusted for inflation)	-\$50M (reduced scope)	-\$60M (reduced scope)
Mill Rate Impact	No change	No change	Lower by 0.250 mills
Annual Taxpayer Cost	Maintains current tax level	Maintains current tax level	Slight reduction in annual taxes
Project Scope	Full original scope (adjusted costs)	Scaled back – prioritization needed	Further scaled back – possible deferrals
Interest Cost	Higher total interest	Lower total interest	Lower total interest
Bond Capacity	Slower	Faster	Faster

Election Date Option Comparison

Feature	November 2025 General Election	March 2026 Special Election
Election Type	General Election	Special Election
Cost to District	Free	District pays election costs
Voter Turnout	Higher – broader participation	Lower – smaller, motivated groups
Public Awareness	Higher overall but less focused	Lower overall but more focused on bond
Messaging Challenges	Short runway; crowded ballot	Long runway; bond is primary issue
Campaign Timeline	Tight – 4 months	Extended – time to build momentum
Project Timing Impact	Sooner approval possible if passed	Later project start if delayed to March